

Homelessness in Virginia

Virginia Housing Commission
Affordable Housing, Real Estate Law and
Mortgages Committee

October 29, 2019



DHCD is committed to creating safe, affordable and prosperous communities to live, work and do business in Virginia.



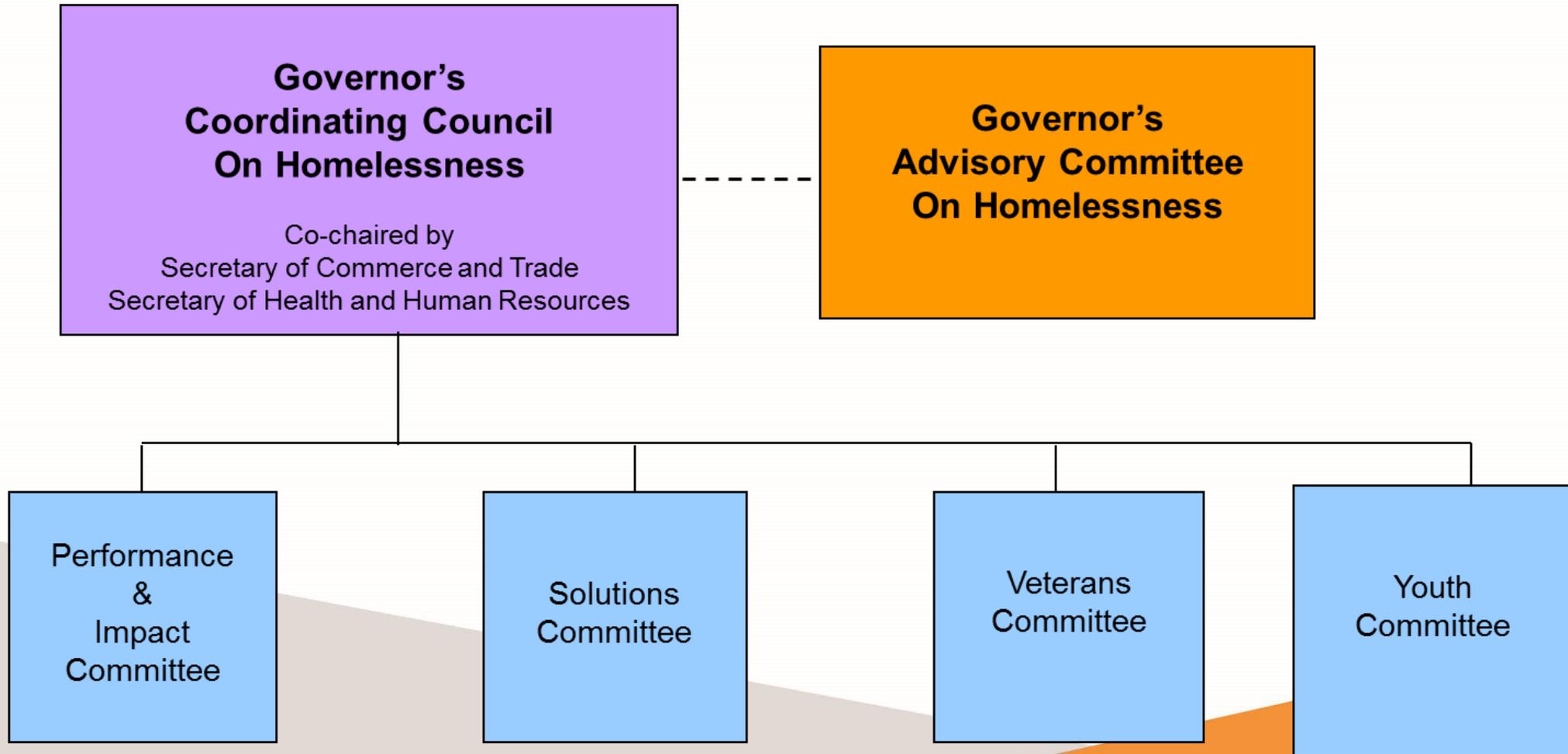
DHCD Divisions:

- Building and Fire Regulations
- Community Development
- GO Virginia and Economic Development
- Housing
 - Production and Preservation
 - Homeless and Special Needs Housing

Goals:

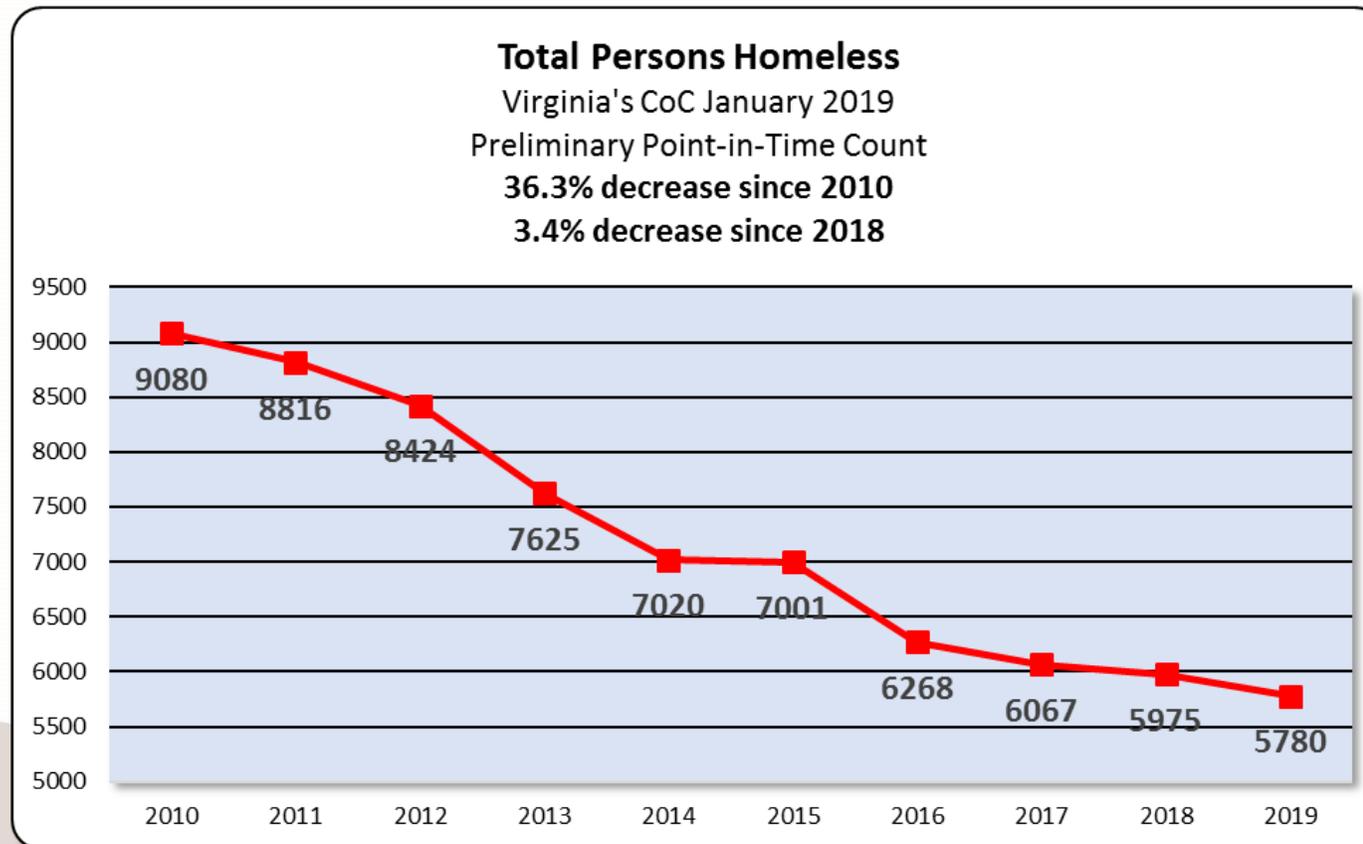
- To reduce the length of homelessness
- To reduce the number of new cases of homelessness
- To reduce the number of individuals returning to homelessness

Governor's Initiative on Homelessness

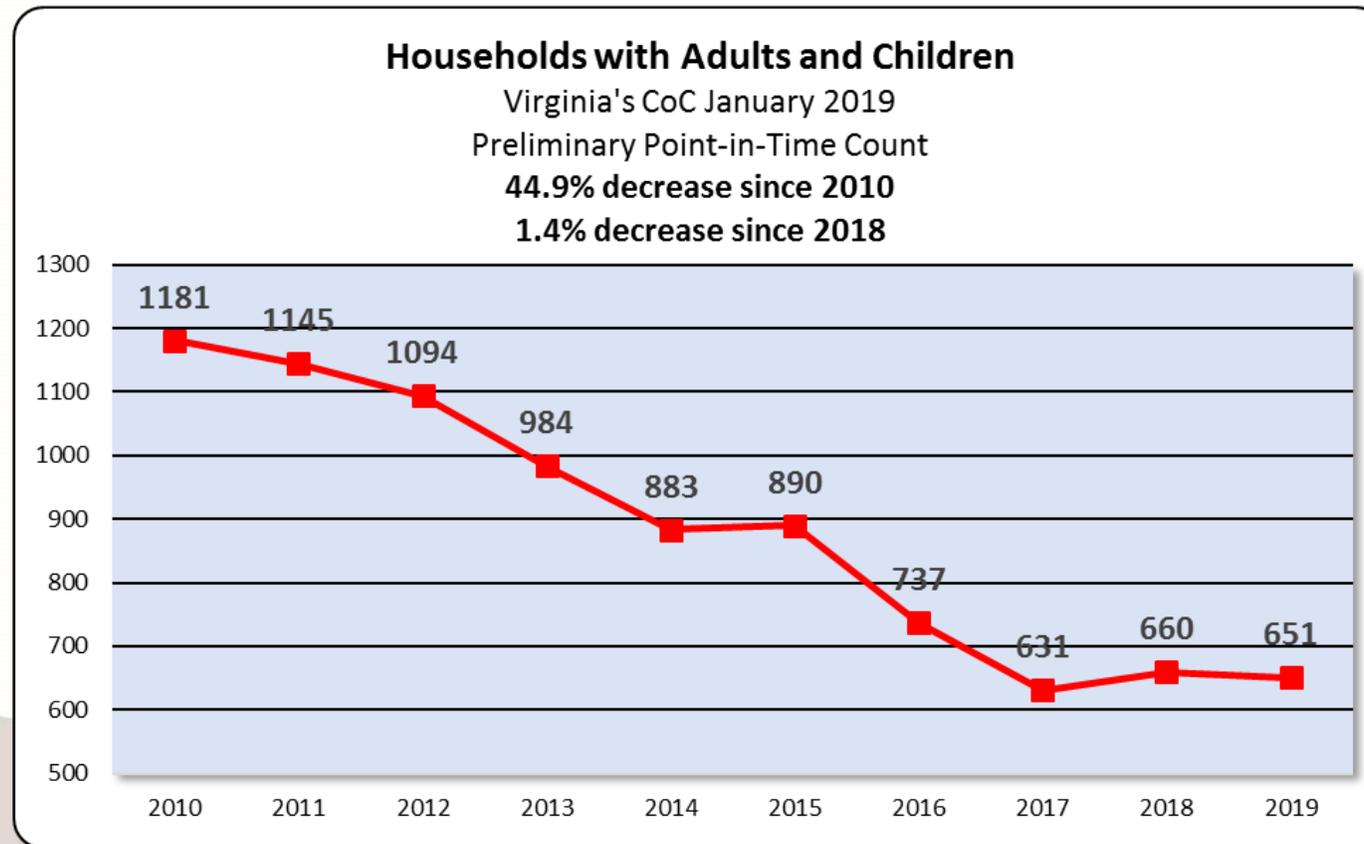


Virginia Homelessness Trends 2010-2019

Total Homeless Persons



Households with Adults and Children:



Statewide Data Merge

Purpose: To provide accurate, timely data on homelessness enabling policy makers to make informed policy and funding decisions

Special Populations

- Youth
- Serious Mental Illness
- Substance Use Disorders
- Older Adults
- Veterans

Executive Order 25

Establishes Governor Northam's affordable housing priorities to address Virginia's unmet housing needs

- Increase the supply of permanent supportive housing
- Reduce the rate of evictions across the Commonwealth
- Address the shortage of quality affordable housing

Housing Efforts in the Commonwealth

**Governor's
Coordinating
Council on
Homelessness
(Chronically
Homeless)**

**Housing &
Supportive
Services
(DOJ – I/DD)**

**Housing
the
Seriously
Mentally Ill**

Permanent Supportive Housing

Homeless Services Funding Virginia 2019-2020

Funding Services	Type	Amount
Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)	Federal – HUD	\$2,885,391
Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS/HIV (HOPWA)	Federal – HUD	\$1,087,223
General Funds—Homeless Assistance	State	\$8,331,784
General Funds—Homeless Prevention	State	\$3,969,000
State Housing Trust Fund: Homeless Reduction Grants	State	\$1,260,000
Total		\$17,533,398

Virginia Housing Trust Fund

- FY 2019 Increase from \$5.5 million to \$11 million
- Increase in Homeless Reduction Grants Pool which is up to 20% of HTF - \$1.4 million
- Increase allowed 16 additional Homeless Reduction Grants funded and 7 additional affordable housing construction projects

Reducing Evictions in the Commonwealth

- Impact of legislation passed in 2019
- Assess current services; needs of cities with high eviction rates
- Data
- Best practices
 - Prevention and Diversion
- Further recommendations to complement efforts

Erik C. Johnston, Director

DHCD

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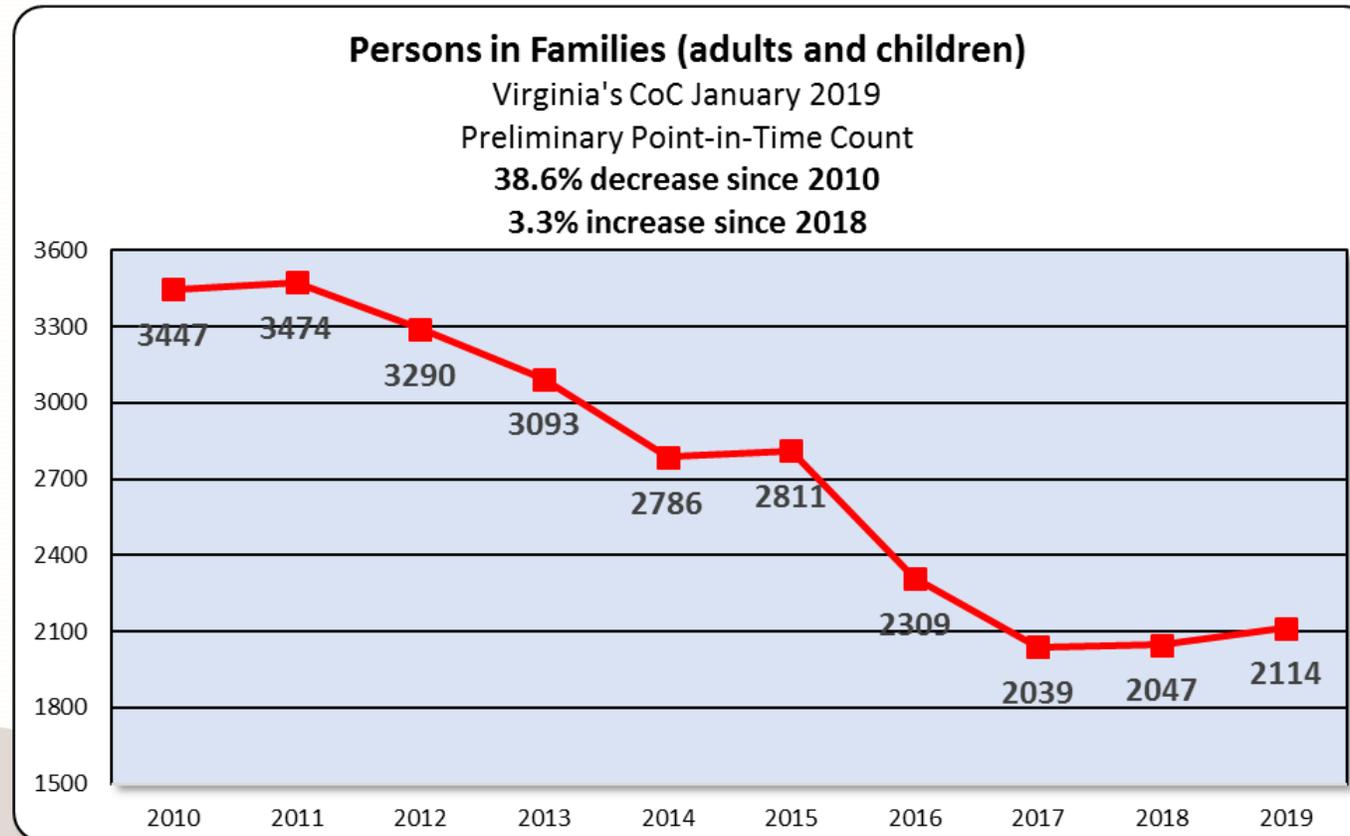
Pamela Kestner, Deputy Director, Housing Division

DHCD

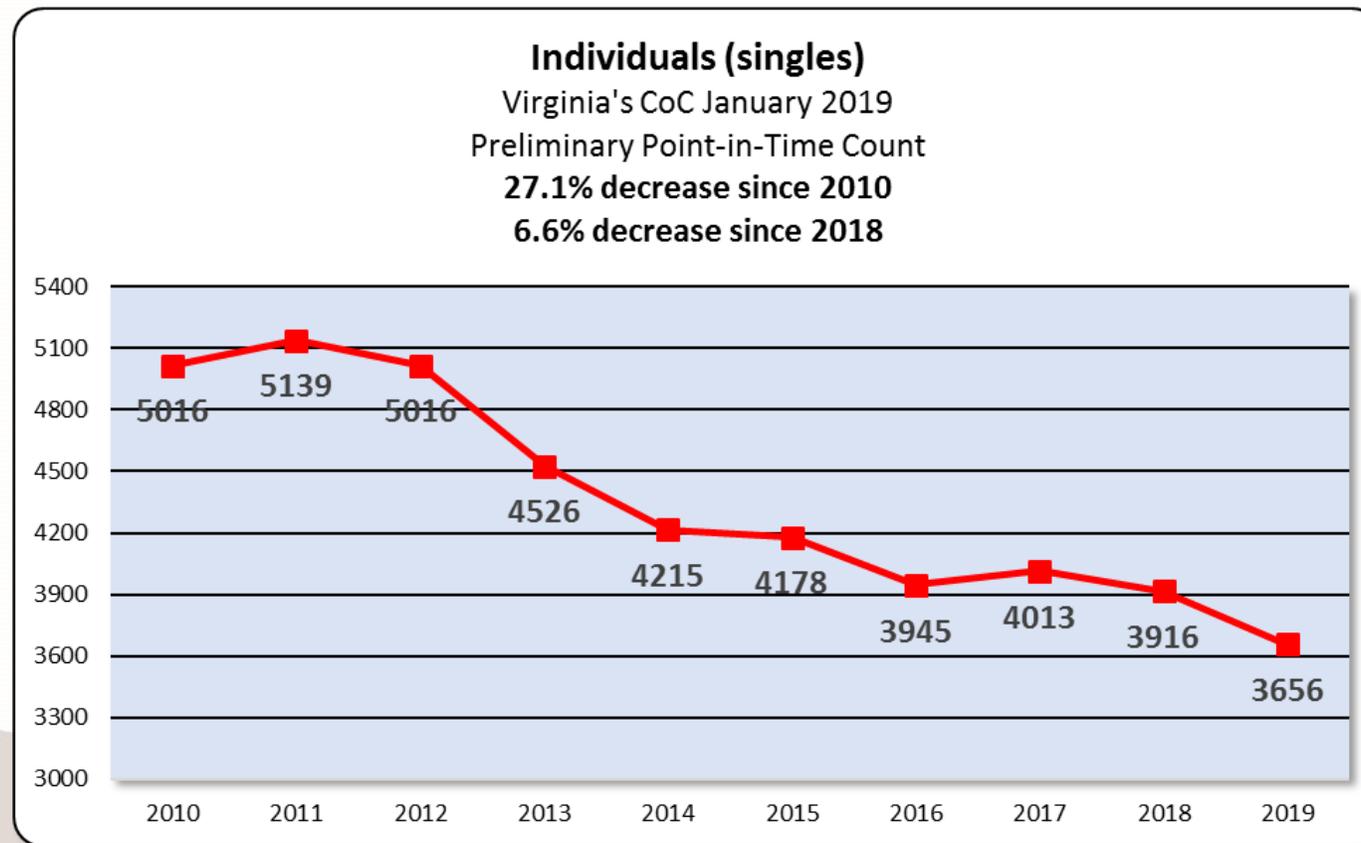
Pamela.Kestner@dhcd.Virginia.gov

Additional Data Charts

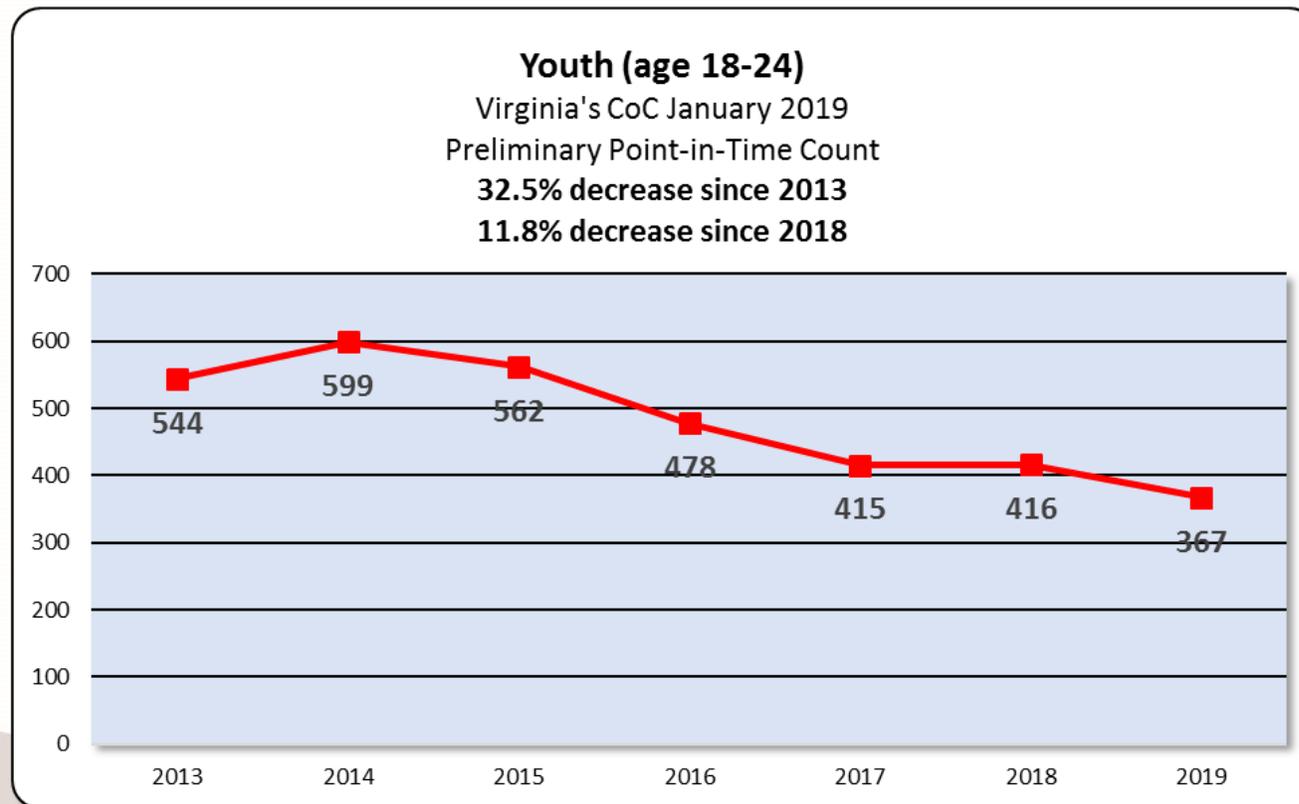
Total Persons in Households w/ Adults and Children (Families)



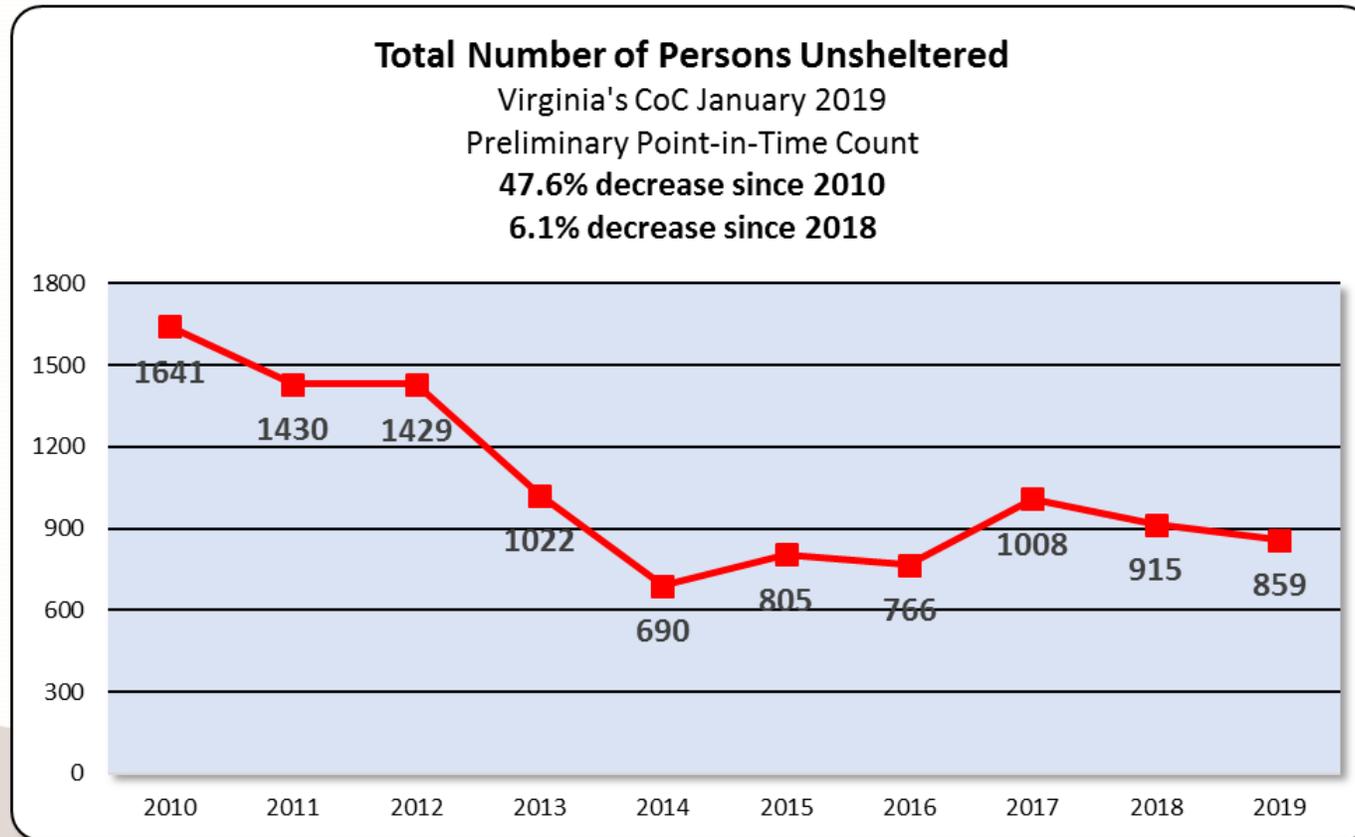
Total Persons in Households without Children (singles)



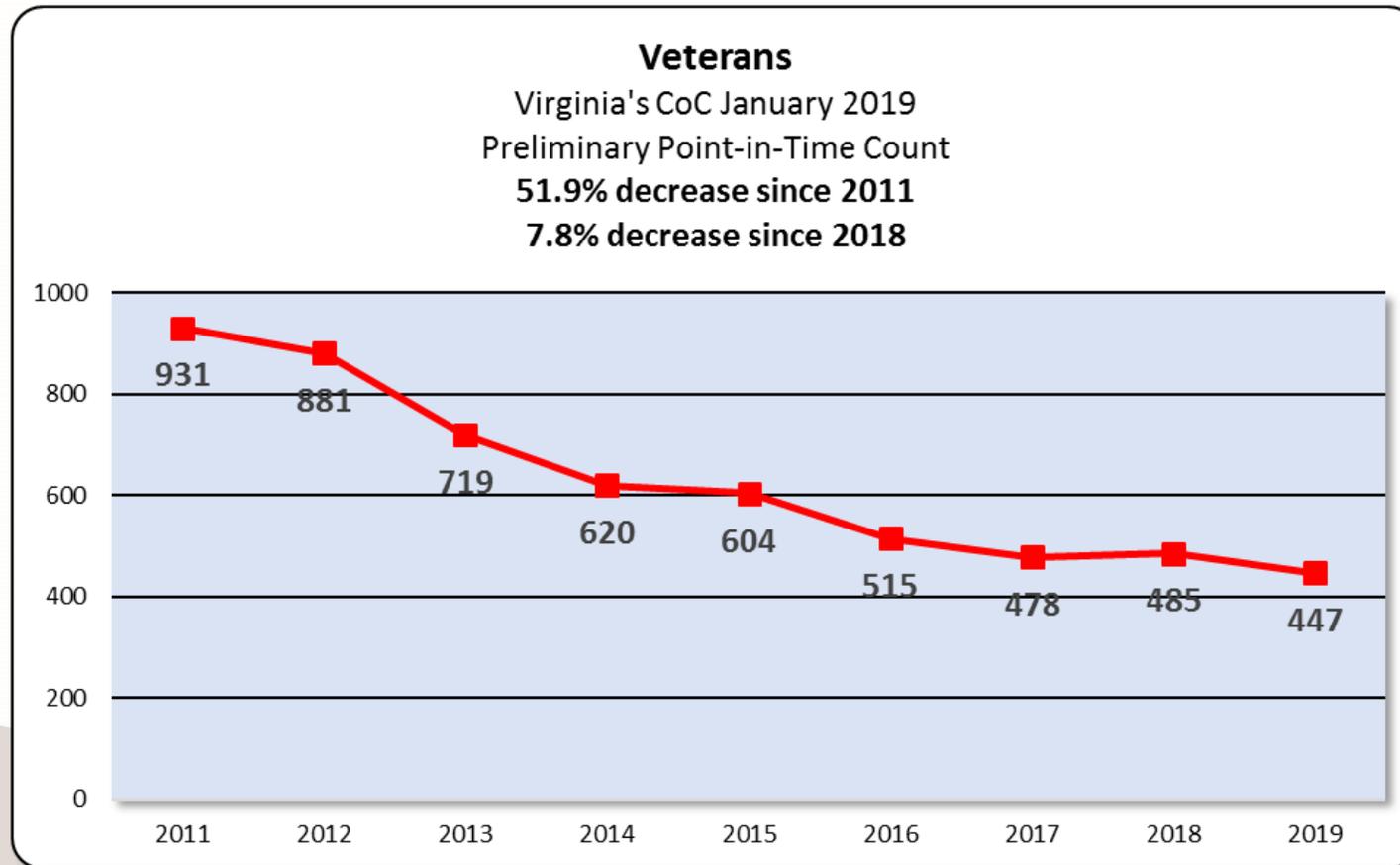
Total Homeless Youth (18-24)



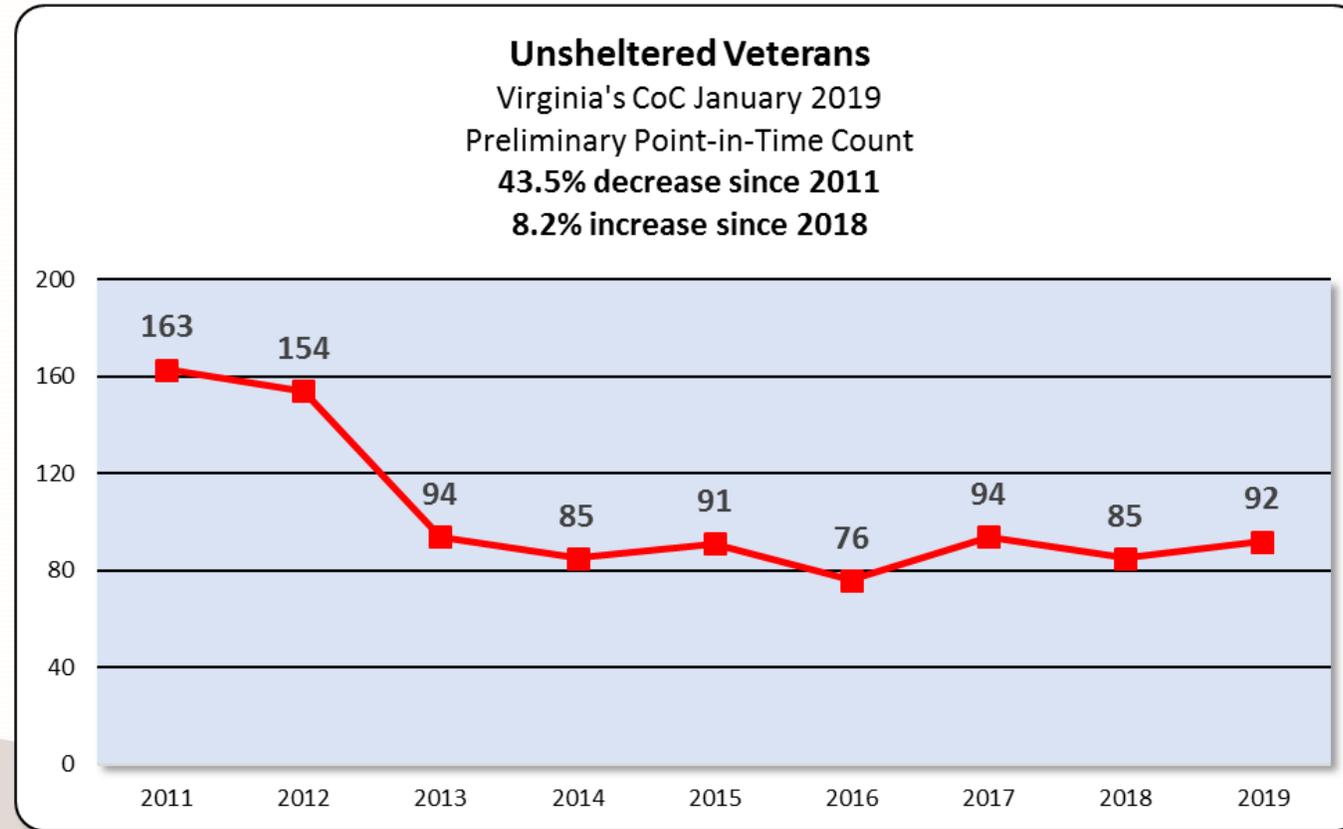
Total Unsheltered Persons



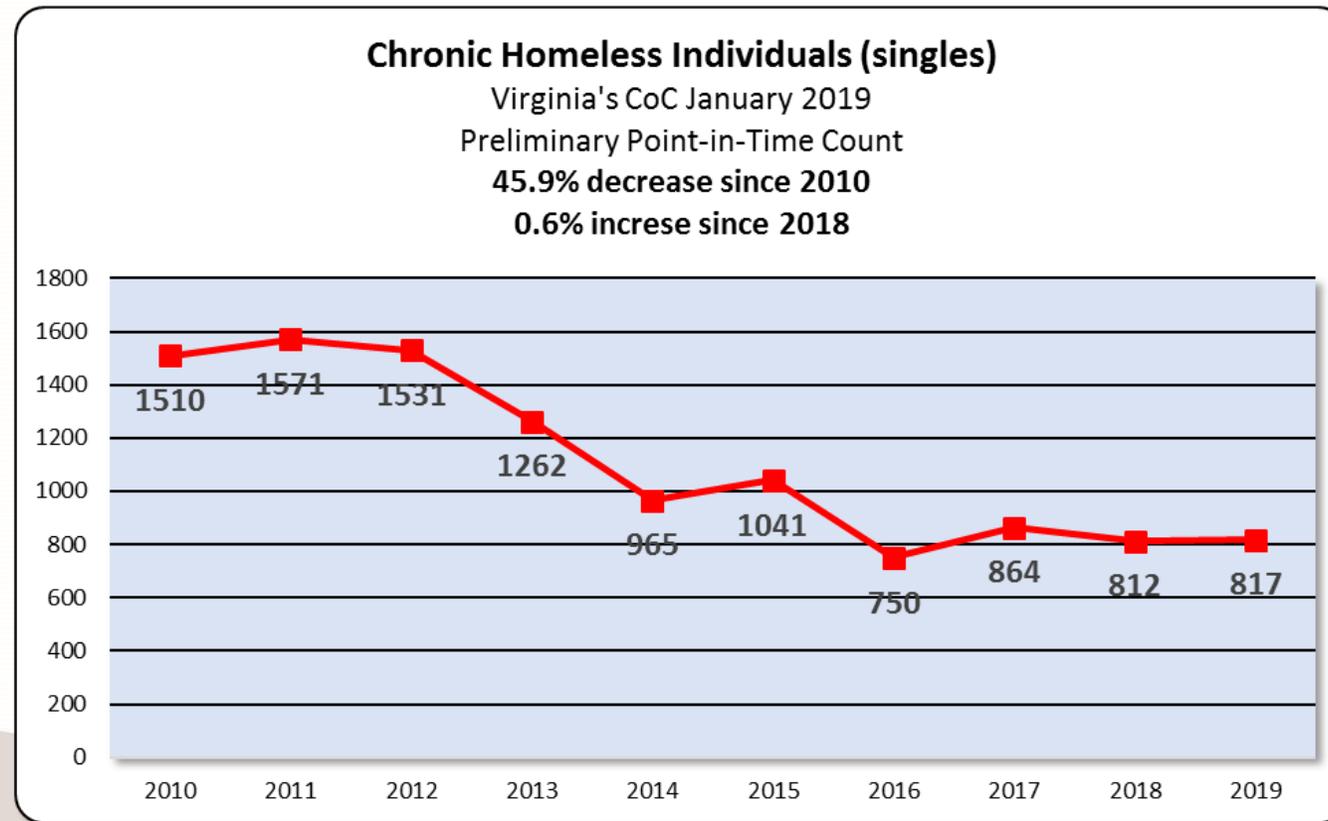
Veterans



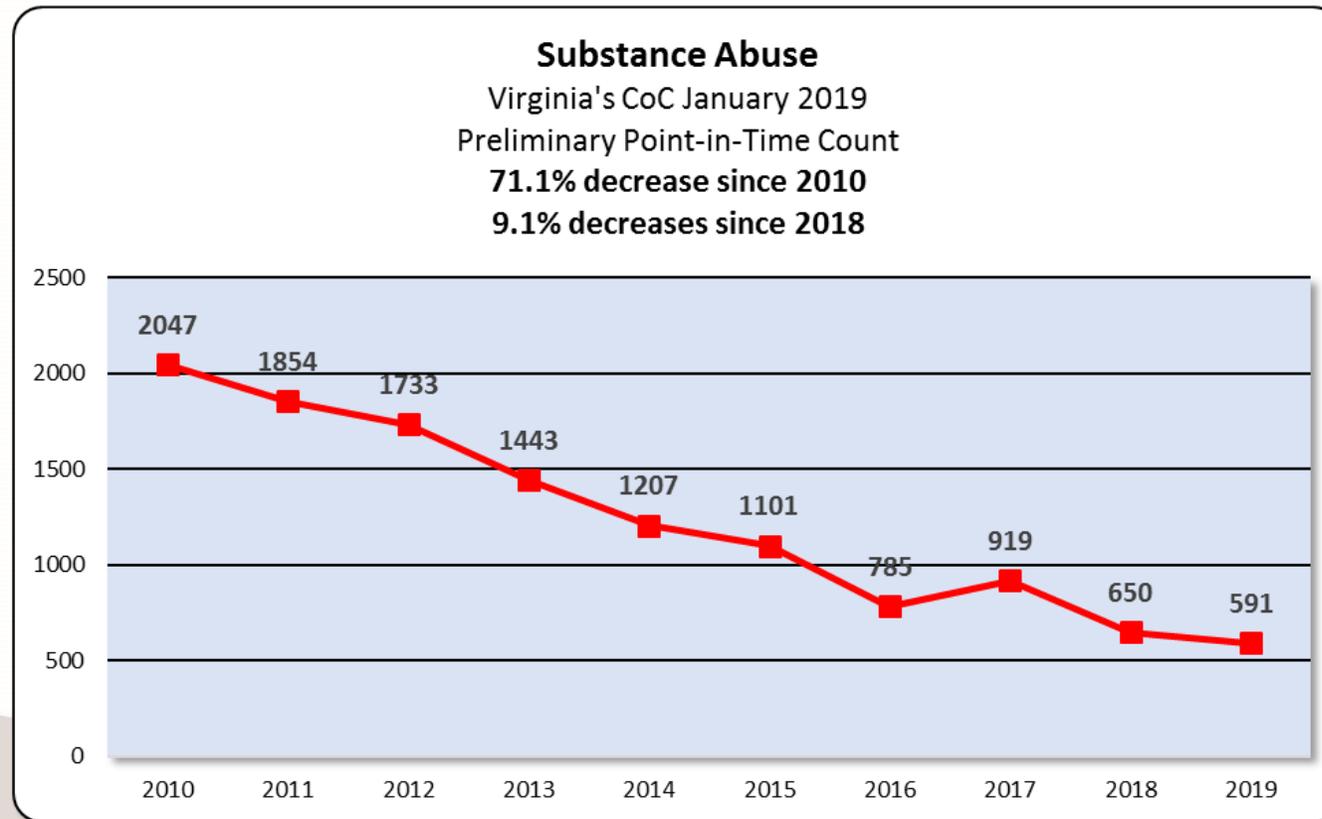
Unsheltered Veterans



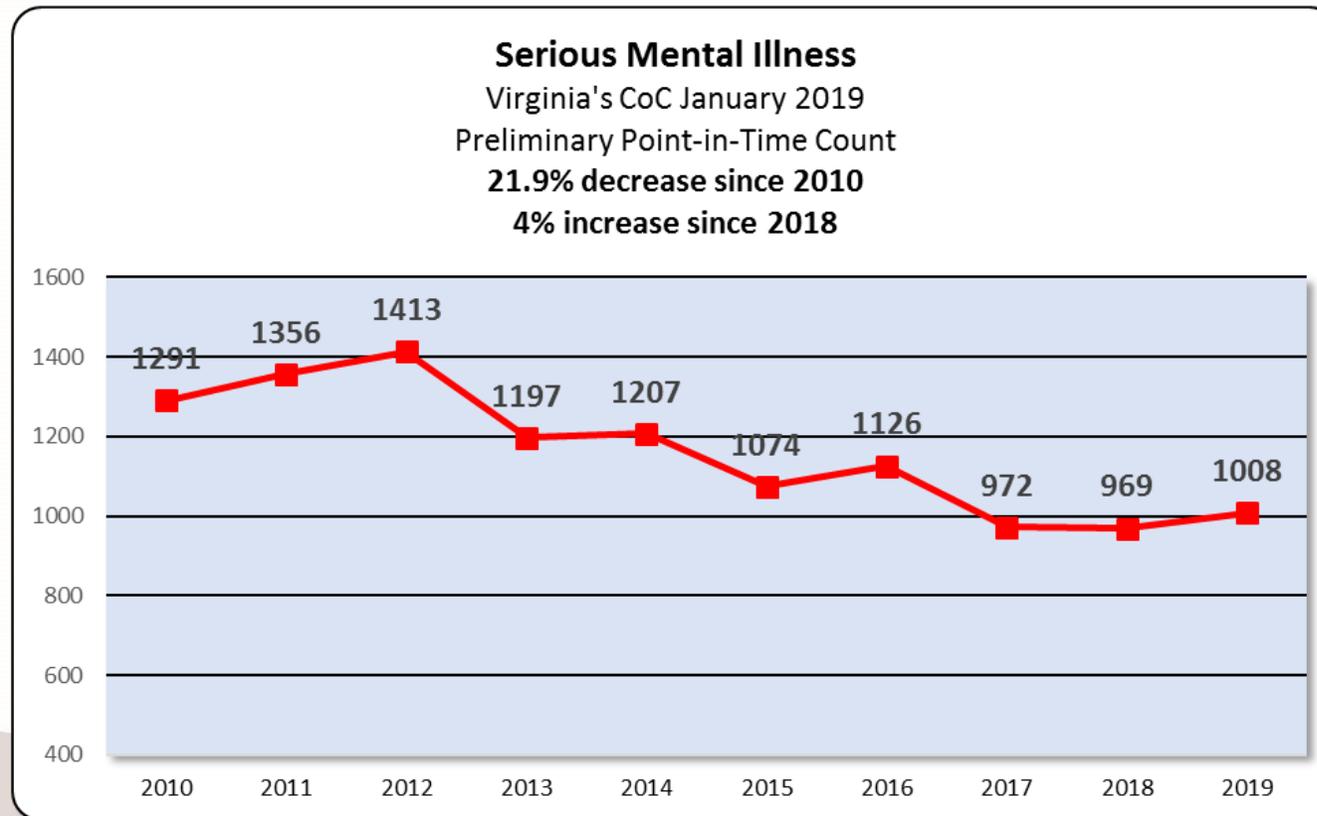
Chronically Homeless Singles



Chronic Substance Abuse



Serious Mental Illness



Victims of Domestic Violence

